GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:38
ANSWERED ON:24.07.2006
ENVIRONMENTAL HAZARD DUE TO STRANDED OIL SHIP
Masood Shri Rasheed

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) Whether an oil ship has stranded in uninhabited mazet island of Northern Andaman.

(b) if so, whether it poses any environmental hazard; and

(c) if so, the remedial measures proposed/taken in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI NAMO NARAIN MEENA)

(a) to (c) As per the information furnished by the Coast Guard, a vessel carrying 33 kilo liters of marine diesel oil on board is grounded off Paget Island of North Andaman. The vessel was declared as a wreck on 26th December, 2005 and is presently in the custody of Harbour Master, Port Management Board, Port Blair and the Andaman & Nicobar Administration. At present, there is no oil spill reported from the wreck. While the marine diesel oil being very light could have only short term impact on environment, the Coast Guard has set up a Task Force for continuous monitoring of the situation. Action has also been taken by the Coast Guard by taking up the matter for salvaging of the vessel with the concerned authorities and for removal of oil from the tanks in order to avoid spillage from the vessel.